MARVEL

3

WILSON
MELNIKOV
REBER

BLACK KAT

RATED T

BZZT! BZZT!

BZZT! BZZT!

WHAT IS IT NOW--?

...

SO YEAH.

THIS IS WHEN THINGS STARTED TO GET PRETTY WILD.

TnM

BLACK CAT COLLARS CRIMINALS

Has this femme fatale turned her coat?

Daredevil sighting sparks romance rumors!

FELICIA HARDY is the **BLACK CAT**, the world's slyest and most skilled super-thief! Armed with her luck-altering abilities, there's no heist she can't pull off. The longer the odds, the better!

BLACK CAT

III. WORD GETS AROUND

The Black Cat changed her stripes--she's a super hero now! But Tombstone, Sandman, and just about every single Spider-Man foe has taken notice! She's gonna have a heck of a time clawing her way out of this one...

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I DECIDED TO CALL *BORIS.*

SHING!

GAAH!

TO GET HIS *READ* ON THE SITUATION.

BOSS? WHY DO YOU SOUND HALF ASLEEP?

BECAUSE I *AM* HALF ASLEEP, BORIS. WHAT TIME IS IT ANYWAY?

IT'S ALMOST TEN-THIRTY IN THE A.M.!

OKAY, OKAY. DON'T *YELL* AT ME.

HAVE YOU SEEN THIS ARTICLE ON *THREATS AND MENACES?*

OF *COURSE* I HAVE.

AND IN MY OPINION, IT'S A *DISASTER.*

WHAT? WHY? DON'T YOU THINK IT COULD BE GOOD PUBLICITY?

FWEEEE!

YOU KNOW, GET THE WORD OUT? STRIKE *FEAR* INTO THE HEARTS OF MY ENEMIES? BUILD MY *BRAND?*

YOU DON'T *HAVE* A BRAND! YOU WORK IN THE *SHADOWS!*

NOW EVERY TOM, DICK, AND HARRY WITH A CELL PHONE WILL BE OUT *LOOKING* FOR YOU!

AND WHAT ABOUT THESE SO-CALLED **ROMANCE RUMORS?!**

THAT PART IS **BOGUS.** DAREDEVIL AND I JUST **TALKED.** FOR, LIKE, THREE MINUTES.

IT DOESN'T **MATTER.** PEOPLE WILL BELIEVE **ANYTHING** THEY READ ON THE INTERNET.

YOU'VE GOT A HUGE **SPOTLIGHT** ON YOU NOW.

AND IT'S GOING TO MAKE DOING YOUR **JOB** A LOT MORE **DIFFICULT.**

ALL I WANTED TO DO WAS KEEP **OTHER** THIEVES FROM BLOWING UP MY **SPOT.**

NO, YOU WANTED TO PLAY THE **HERO.**

AND HEROES END UP ON THE **NEWS.** SO CONGRATULATIONS. YOU **DID** IT.

ANYWAY, I'VE GOT A NEW **LEAD** FOR YOU.

ASSUMING YOU CAN FIND **TIME** IN YOUR BUSY SCHEDULE OF BEING **INTERNET FAMOUS.**

OH NO. WHAT IS IT? MORE VAMPIRES? MUMMIES? **ZOMBIES?**

THIS TIME, IT'S MERELY STANDARD-ISSUE **SMUGGLING.**

SO JUST A **NORMAL** DAY IN THE TRISTATE AREA.

WHAT A **RELIEF.**

THAT AFTERNOON.

I CAMPED OUT ABOVE THE **MAJOR DEEGAN** TO WAIT FOR THE SUSPICIOUSLY UNMARKED **TRUCK** BORIS HAD IDENTIFIED.

IT WAS ALREADY STARTING TO FEEL **NATURAL**, THIS SHIFT FROM BEING ON THE **WRONG** SIDE OF THE LAW TO BEING ON THE-- WELL, MAYBE NOT THE **RIGHT** SIDE, BUT THE **OTHER** SIDE.

AFTER ALL, IT'S NOT LIKE I'VE **NEVER** HELPED THE **GOOD GUYS** BEFORE. I'VE **ALWAYS** DONE WHAT FEELS **RIGHT** IN THE MOMENT.

WHOOSH!

THIS TIME, HOWEVER...

...THE STAKES FELT A LOT **HIGHER.**

THUD!

YOU HEAR THAT?

SOUNDS LIKE SOMETHIN' HIT THE *ROOF--*

PHEWWWW!

MUST'VE BEEN A *BIRD* OR SOMETH--

HI.

WHAA--?!

ALMOST IMMEDIATELY, I REALIZED MY SKILLS AS A *BURGLAR* DIDN'T HELP A WHOLE LOT WHEN IT CAME TO *CARJACKING* AN EIGHTY-THOUSAND-POUND *SEMI*.

RRRRR!

HEY!

BEEP BEEEEEEP!

WHOOOOA!

I DIDN'T EXPECT TO HAVE A *GUN* IN MY FACE THE MOMENT I STUCK MY HEAD THROUGH THE PASSENGER-SIDE WINDOW EITHER.

I DON'T KNOW WHAT *GAMES* YOU THINK YOU'RE PLAYIN', CAT LADY--

--BUT YOU ARE IN *WAY* OVER YOUR PRETTY LITTLE *HEAD*.

WHAT IN THE WORLD...

...IS THAT?

BUT THAT'S *NOT* WHAT FREAKED ME OUT.

WHAT FREAKED ME OUT WAS THE GUY DRIVING THE TRUCK.

I WAS PRETTY SURE I'D SEEN HIM BEFORE IN ***NIGHT NURSE'S*** WAITING ROOM. I DIDN'T LIKE HIM ***THEN*** EITHER.

...

DESPITE THE ADORABLE EXTERIOR, I COULD TELL HE WAS A ***TOUGH CUSTOMER.***

NEVERTHELESS...

DON'T WORRY, BOYS.

YOU'LL GET WHERE YOU'RE GOING. I'M JUST ALONG FOR THE ***RIDE.***

...I WAS CONFIDENT THAT, WITH A LITTLE ***LUCK,*** I COULD GET THE TWO OF THEM TO SEE THINGS ***MY*** WAY.

SKRRRR!

SCREECH!

WHAT THE-- HOW'D YOU GET MY ***GUN?!***

RAMP 30 MPH

HONK HONK!

WELCOME TO
New Jersey
FWOOM!
SKREEECH!
THUNK!
THIS WAS SUPPOSED TO BE A SIMPLE ONE-STOP *DROP.*
I DON'T UNDERSTAND WHY WE SUDDENLY GOT SUCH *BAD LUCK.*
SO I SAID TO HIM--
WELL, JIM...
(HIS NAME WAS JIM.)
...BAD LUCK JUST SEEMS TO *FOLLOW* SOME PEOPLE AROUND.

WELL, ***YOU'RE*** GONNA BE THE ***UNLUCKY*** ONE IN A MINUTE, CAT LADY.

SURE I AM, JIM.

ALL YOU ORGANIZED-CRIME TYPES LIKE TO PRETEND YOU'VE GOT SOME KIND OF SHADOWY SECRET THAT NO ONE ELSE ***UNDERSTANDS*** AND THAT WILL ***BLOW UP*** IN THE HERO'S FACE AT SOME APPROPRIATELY ***DRAMATIC*** MOMENT.

OF COURSE, ***LAST*** TIME IT TURNED OUT TO BE ***TRUE.***

BUT THEY DON'T NEED TO ***KNOW*** THAT.

WHY DOESN'T YOUR ***FRIEND*** EVER ***SAY*** ANYTHING?

THE ***MULE?*** HE DOESN'T ***TALK.***

WHY NOT?

SO WHY IS HE CALLED THE ***MULE*** IF HE'S A ***GIRAFFE?***

DIDN'T YOU WATCH ***NATIONAL GEOGRAPHIC*** AS A KID? GIRAFFES CAN'T MAKE ANY SOUNDS.

YOU'RE ABOUT TO ***FIND OUT.***

SKKRRR!

HA HA HA, I THOUGHT. YOU GOT ME. HE'S CALLED ***THE MULE*** BECAUSE HE MOVES ***CONTRABAND.*** LOTS OF IT. EVIDENTLY FROM ***OUTER SPACE.***

...WHOA.

AND A MULE WHO CAN'T ***SNITCH?*** ABSOLUTELY ***GENIUS.***

WHAT THE HECK IS ALL ***THIS?***

IT'S A ***GROW OPERATION.*** HALLUCINOGENIC PLANTS FROM THE PLANET ***RIGEL.***

THEY PAY IN ***PLATINUM BARS*** FOR THIS STUFF OFF-PLANET. THOUGHT I WAS GOING TO MAKE ENOUGH MONEY ON THIS RUN TO PAY OFF MY ***MERCEDES.***

...UNTIL ***YOU*** SHOWED UP.

I'M AFRAID YOU'LL HAVE TO LEAVE THE BENZ ON ***AUTOPAY*** FOR A WHILE LONGER, JIMBO.

BOTH OF YOU ARE COMING WITH ME TO THE ***POLICE*** ST--

SORRY, I CAN'T LET YOU ***DO*** THAT, AUNTIE...UH... CAT LADY.

A SUPER-SECRET *AGENCY* HAS BEEN *WATCHING* THIS OPERATION.

THEY'RE GONNA WANT TO *DEBRIEF* THESE GUYS.

AND I DON'T WANT TO SAY ANYTHING *MEAN*, BUT YOU'VE PROBABLY MESSED UP THEIR *INTELLIGENCE GATHERING* BY BUSTING IN HERE LIKE THIS...

YOU'RE THAT KID. THAT-- *STRETCHY* KID.

THAT'S ME. *MS. MARVEL.*

WAIT A MINUTE! I KNOW WHO YOU ARE! YOU'RE *BLACK CAT!*

YOU STOLE MY *PHONE* THAT ONE TIME!

THAT WASN'T *ME!*

THAT WAS A-- A *MISUNDERSTANDING!*

S'OKAY. I GOT IT *BACK* IN THE END.

WE'RE GETTING OFF *TRACK.* YOU'RE JUST A *CHILD.* WHAT DO *YOU* CARE WHO TAKES THESE GUYS DOWN?

SORRY. NOT MY *CALL.* I'M NOT EVEN SUPPOSED TO *BE* HERE, I'M JUST THE DEFAULT NEW JERSEY PERSON.

HEY!

HONESTLY, IF IT WAS UP TO *ME,* I'D TOTALLY LET YOU WALK OUT OF HERE WITH THESE TWO *BOZOS.*

THEN WHY *DON'T* YOU?! NOBODY ELSE KNOWS I'M EVEN *HERE.*

WELL, YOU KNOW HOW *CRIME* RUNS *DEEPER* THAN MOST PEOPLE THINK, AND 99% OF IT IS STUFF YOU CAN'T *SEE?*

LIKE *WAGE THEFT* AND WHATEVER?

SQUEEEZE

SAME GOES FOR *CRIMEFIGHTING.* IT'S MOSTLY *INVISIBLE.* ESPECIALLY WHEN IT'S *INTERGALACTIC.*

I *LOVED* THAT PIECE THEY RAN ABOUT YOU ON *THREATS AND MENACES,* BY THE WAY!

THE PHOTOS WERE *GREAT!*

...SURE. YEAH. THANKS. SEE YOU *LATER,* I GUESS.

WAIT A MINUTE!

YOU'RE MAKIN' ENEMIES YOU CAN'T *AFFORD,* LADY! YOU'LL HAVE YOUR DAY IN THE BRIGHT LIGHTS, BUT *THEN* WHAT?

YOU MAY BE A *CAT,* BUT YOU *DON'T* GOT NINE LIVES!

TO BE HONEST, I DIDN'T PAY MUCH ATTENTION TO JIM'S *THREAT.*

AFTER ALL, HE WAS BEING CARRIED OUT THE DOOR BY A TEENAGE *FIDGET SPINNER.*

MY IMMEDIATE CONCERN WAS THAT--YET AGAIN--A COSTUMED DO-GOODER HAD EATEN MY *LUNCH.*

HI. IS THIS THE *THREATS AND MENACES* TIP LINE?

I'VE GOT A LEAD ON A *HOT STORY.*

APPARENTLY, *BLACK CAT* JUST TRIED TO TAKE DOWN A SINISTER *SMUGGLING RING* IN NEW JERSEY AND GOT STONEWALLED BY A QUOTE-UNQUOTE *INTELLIGENCE AGENCY* USING A *TEENAGER* AS A GO-BETWEEN.

WOW. BIG IF TRUE.

THIS ONE'S ABOVE MY PAY GRADE. I'M PATCHING YOU THROUGH TO THE GUY WHO WROTE THAT BLACK CAT STORY.

WAIT-- YOU MEAN J. JONAH--

--JAMESON HERE.

TO WHOM AM I SPEAKING?

YOU *KNOW* WHO THIS IS.

WELL, WELL, WELL. LOOK WHAT THE **CAT** DRAGGED--

UH-HUH. YEAH. STELLAR *BANTER.* NEVER HEARD *THAT* ONE BEFORE.

DID YOU SEE THE ARTICLE?

OF COURSE I SAW THE ARTICLE. THE ENTIRE INTERNET SAW THE ARTICLE.

WELL? WHAT DID YOU THINK?

ROMANCE RUMORS? WITH DAREDEVIL? SERIOUSLY?

YOU TWO LOOKED PRETTY COZY IN THE PHOTOS. IT WASN'T A STRETCH.

I WAS TRYING TO DO A JOB!

BUT ANYWAY. LISTEN. THAT'S NOT WHY I CALLED.

I CALLED BECAUSE TWICE, I'VE TRIED TO FIGHT CRIME, AND TWICE, A SO-CALLED HERO HAS EITHER GOTTEN IN MY WAY AND--OR TOLD ME I WASN'T ALLOWED.

NOW THAT'S A STORY.

THIS TIME, IT'S THAT LOOPY X-KID FROM NEW JERSEY--

MS. MARVEL?

THAT SOUNDS RIGHT.

WELL, WHAT DID YOU EXPECT?

YOU THOUGHT YOU COULD JUST SWITCH SIDES AND EXPECT THE PEOPLE WHO'VE BEEN RISKING THEIR LIVES FOR GOOD OL' LAW AND ORDER TO THANK YOU?

WELL...

...YEAH.

LISTEN, THIS IS NOT A ***THREATS AND MENACES*** STORY. THIS IS A DISCUSSION TO HAVE WITH YOUR ***THERAPIST.***

GIVE ME A CALL WHEN YOU ACTUALLY COLLAR A ***BAD GUY.*** THEN I ***PROMISE*** I'LL HAVE PHOTOGRAPHERS STANDING BY, WAITING TO CAPTURE YOUR ***BEST SIDE.***

AND, B.C.?

UH-HUH?

DON'T LET ALL THIS NEW ATTENTION GO TO YOUR **HEAD,** OKAY? THIEVES LOVE SHINY THINGS, AND THE **SPOTLIGHT** IS THE SHINIEST THING OF ALL.

BUT IT'S **FOOL'S GOLD.**

BEEP BEEP!

...WELL, GOODBYE TO YOU ***TOO.***

IF THERE'S ONE THING I ***HATE,*** IT'S ENDING UP IN ***NEW JERSEY*** FOR ABSOLUTELY ***NO REASON.***

GUESS IT'S TIME TO LOOK AT ***TRAIN*** SCHEDULES...

TSSSS!

JAMESON WAS RIGHT ABOUT *ONE* THING.

BEING IN THE PUBLIC SPOTLIGHT ISN'T ALL *ROSES* AND *HEART EMOJIS.*

FOR EVERY PERSON WHO DECIDES TO BECOME YOUR NEWEST, BIGGEST FAN...

...THERE'S *ANOTHER* WHO'S DECIDED TO MAKE YOU THEIR *MORTAL ENEMY.*

UGH!

FLOP

NNGH--

SKKT-

THERE HE WAS. MR. *SANDMAN.* ONE OF THE *ONLY* PEOPLE OUTSIDE A HANDFUL OF *ELITE* THIEVES WHO HAS WHAT IT TAKES TO *SNEAK* UP ON ME.

NOT BECAUSE HE'S *SMART* OR *AGILE.* BUT BECAUSE HE'S FUNCTIONALLY JUST A BAG OF CONCRETE.

YOU SHOULD'VE LISTENED TO THE *KID.* DON'T GO SNOOPING AROUND IN PLACES YOU DON'T *BELONG.*

YOU KNOW WHAT THEY SAY. *CURIOSITY* KILLED--

--THE *CAT.* YEAH, YEAH, YEAH.

WHY DOES *EVERYBODY* FEEL THE NEED TO SPEAK TO ME IN *CLICHES?*

WHOOSH!

YOU GOT A *SMART MOUTH* FOR SUCH A DUMB BLOND!

NOT SURE I'D CALL MYSELF *BLOND,* MORE--YOU KNOW WHAT? LESS TALKING, MORE *KICKING!*

OOF.

YOU THINK YOU CAN DO WHATEVER YOU *WANT*... SWITCH SIDES, STEAL, SWITCH SIDES *AGAIN*, WITHOUT ANY *CONSEQUENCES*--

--BUT YOU'LL *PAY* FOR THAT.

I'M JUST A DUMB BLOND *THIEF*, REMEMBER?

I NEVER PAY FOR *ANYTHING*.

IN *RETROSPECT*, I SHOULD HAVE USED THAT SPLIT SECOND OF OPPORTUNITY TO HIT *HIM*.

THUD

BUT WHEN A GUY LIKE *THAT* CALLS YOU *NAMES*, IT'S HARD NOT TO WANT THE *LAST WORD*.

WITH THAT, IT ALL WENT *DARK*.

SKKKK!

WHEN I CAME TO AGAIN, IT WAS *STILL* DARK, BUT ONLY BECAUSE I WAS WEARING SOME KIND OF *HOOD*.

AND BEING *DRAGGED* ACROSS A COLD FLOOR.

WHICH IS *NEVER* A GOOD SIGN.

FWIP!

HERE SHE IS, BOSS. AS *PROMISED.*

SOMETIMES, YOU CAN SEE THE *DISASTER* COMING YOUR WAY. SOMETIMES, YOU *CAN'T.* AND SOMETIMES, YOU *SHOULD'VE*, BUT YOU DIDN'T.

HELLO, MS. CAT.

I THINK IT'S TIME FOR US TO GET BETTER *ACQUAINTED.*

AND *TOMBSTONE?* TOMBSTONE WAS THE KIND OF DISASTER I SHOULD'VE SEEN COMING A *MILE* AWAY.

BUT *JAMESON* WAS RIGHT ABOUT SOMETHING *ELSE.* I WAS TOO DAZZLED BY THE *BRIGHT LIGHTS* TO SEE THE *SHADOWS* CREEPING IN.

NEXT:
ONE OF THE GOOD GUYS, I SWEAR.

SPIDERS & SYMBIOTES

THE LOWE-DOWN

WEB-HEADS!

It's the spookiest month, and it's spooky how much awesome Spider-Stuff we have! ERIK LARSEN RETURNS! This time as writer of SPIDER-MAN NOIR #1 alongside artist ANDREA BROCCARDO to bring you to pulp heaven as a new femme fatale enters Peter Parker, P.I.'s office—GWEN STACY! Just in time to get to know this gumshoe before *Spider-Noir* comes out! J. MICHAEL STRACZYNSKI is back, too, for AMAZING SPIDER-MAN: TORN! You know JMS has revolutionary Spider-Ideas, and this time, they take him and artist extraordinaire PERE PÉREZ to circa ASM #50 days! MARVEL KNIGHTS: PUNISHER brings superstars JIMMY PALMIOTTI and DAN PANOSIAN to the MK celebration with a wild take on Frank tying into THE WORLD TO COME! Don't miss VENOM #250 where AL EWING and CARLOS GÓMEZ are joined by TERRY DODSON and TODD NAUCK to bring you a cover-to-cover FIRE FEST (not Fyre Fest), including the return of the villain of the decade…KNULL!!! See, that got spookier as it went!

Keep Thwippin',
Nick Lowe
Spider-Editor

THIS MONTH'S HOST

NAME: Tom Groneman

TITLE: Associate Editor

WORKS ON:
AMAZING SPIDER-MAN,
MILES MORALES: SPIDER-MAN,
BLACK CAT & MORE!

WHO IS YOUR IRL SUPER HERO?

Hard to pick just one! My teachers growing up. Journalists, especially those on the front lines. Above all, my ma, Josephine.

WHICH SPIDER-MAN VILLAIN DO YOU MOST RESONATE WITH?

Oh, gosh, it's changed over the years. Venom rules. "Kraven's Last Hunt" might be the best Marvel story ever. Lately, it's sins-removed, good-guy Norman Osborn, believe it or not! I find myself pretty consistently rooting for Norman over our heroes! Twisted, I know.

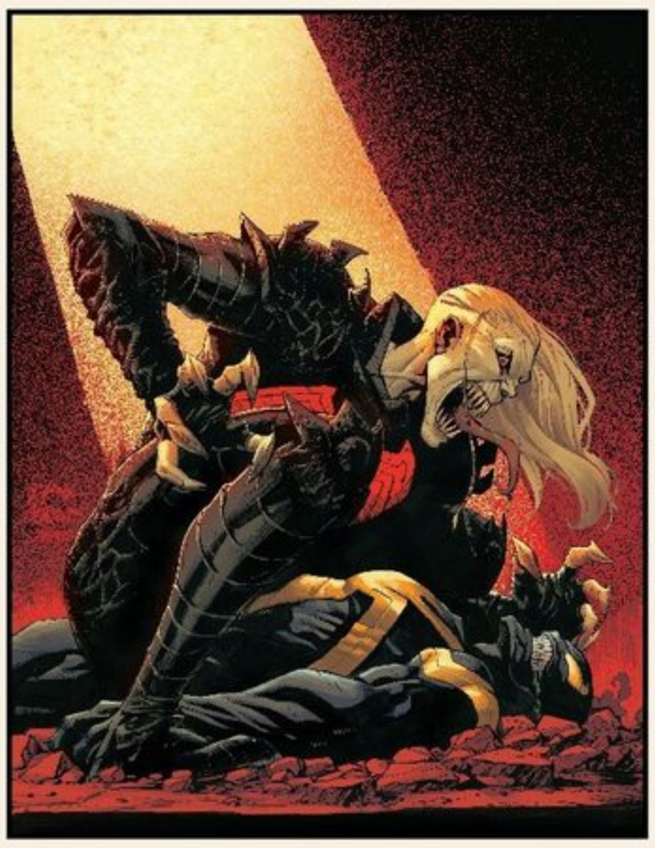
IF YOU COULD GIVE YOUR YOUNGER SELF ONE PIECE OF ADVICE, WHAT WOULD IT BE?

Embrace your fear. Take risks. Use your most unrelenting passion as a north star, always. That's three pieces of advice, I suppose…

NEED YOUR SPIDER-FIX WHILE YOU WAIT FOR NEXT ISSUE?

THWIP-LIST

- ❑ AMAZING SPIDER-MAN #13
- ❑ SPIDER-MAN NOIR #1
- ❑ VENOM #250



- ❑ AMAZING SPIDER-MAN: TORN #1
- ❑ EDDIE BROCK: CARNAGE #9
- ❑ MARVEL KNIGHTS: PUNISHER #1
- ❑ AMAZING SPIDER-MAN #14
- ❑ DEATH OF THE SILVER SURFER #5
- ❑ JEFF THE LAND SHARK #5
- ❑ MARVEL ZOMBIES: RED BAND #2
- ❑ MILES MORALES: SPIDER-MAN #39
- ❑ RADIOACTIVE SPIDER-MAN #1

- ❑ SPIDER-GIRL #5
- ❑ ALL-NEW SPIDER-GWEN: THE GHOST-SPIDER #3
- ❑ BLACK CAT #3
- ❑ CLOAK OR DAGGER #1
- ❑ MARVEL KNIGHTS: THE WORLD TO COME #5
- ❑ MARVEL RIVALS: KING IN BLACK #1

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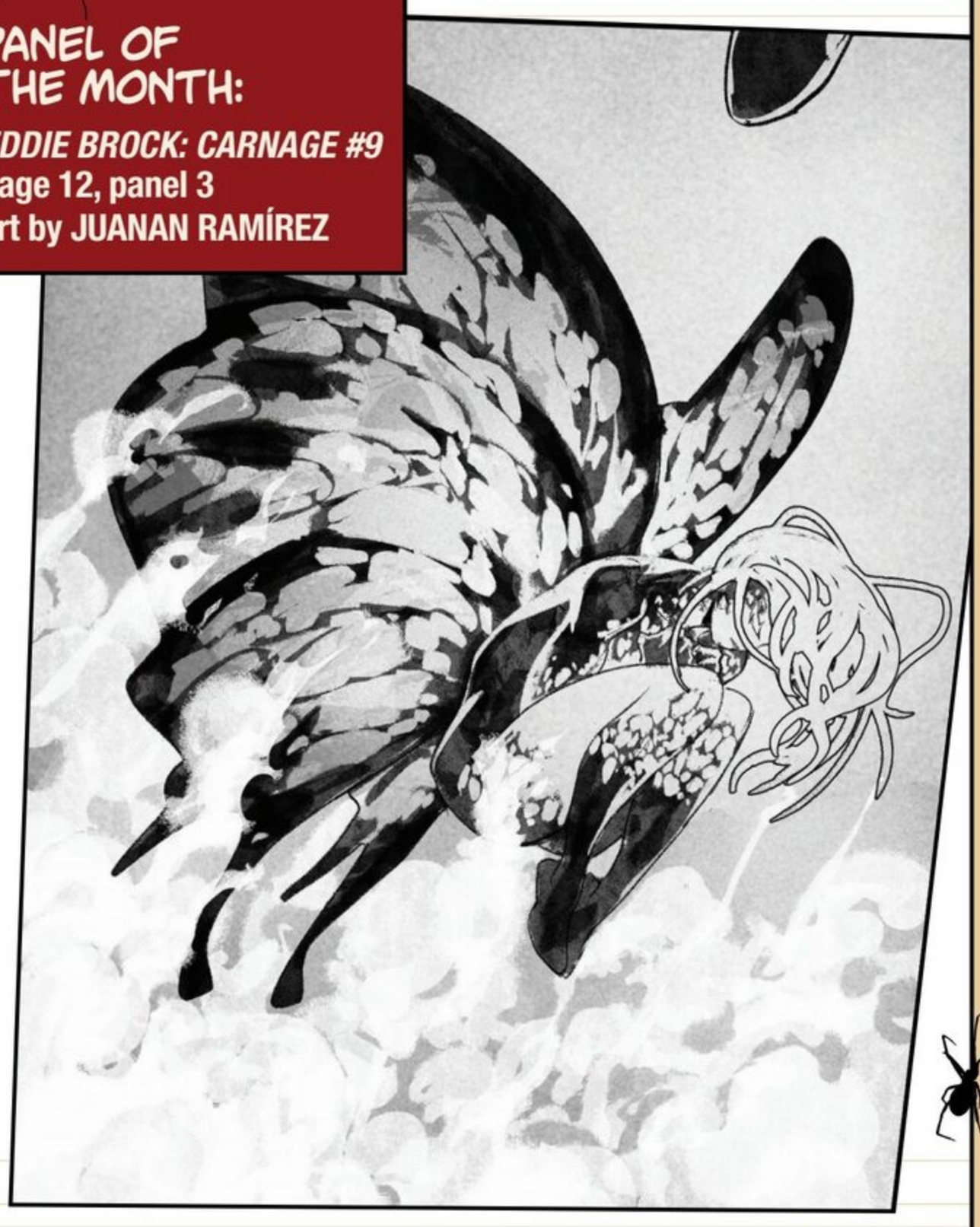
NICK LOWE - Executive Editor

PANEL OF THE MONTH:

EDDIE BROCK: CARNAGE #9
page 12, panel 3
art by JUANAN RAMÍREZ



EDGE OF THE VARIANT-VERSE

We in the Spider-Office are no stranger to variants, we've got a Spider-Verse full of 'em. It's hard to narrow it down, but check out our favorite variant cover of the month.

DEATH OF THE SILVER SURFER #5
Variant Cover by CLAUDIO CASTELLINI

GAMMA CORNER

IS HE SPIDER, OR IS HE SYMBIOTE...OR IS HE NEITHER?

IT ALL COMES TO THIS.

The Hulk has been facing off against servants of Eldest for some time now, as the ancient evil seeks to free the Mother of All Horrors and return the world to the time of monsters. Finally, the time has come. Eldest versus Hulk for the fate of everything...

AND IT'S NOT GOING TO GO THE WAY YOU EXPECT.

INCREDIBLE HULK #30
On sale 10/15

CHECK OUT:

Miles defends Brooklyn Visions Academy from the Frost Pharaoh's icy revenge!

MARVEL UNLIMITED

NEXT

BLACK CAT

#4

ON SALE:
11/26/25